

AMANDA RICHARD: My name is Amanda Richard and I'm an environmental engineer for Canyon Fuel Company, Sufco Mine. As you hear about the how, why, and where the lease for coal or ensuring that American taxpayers get a fair return on their resources, I'm going to discuss climate change or impacts in the environmental process. When you hear climate change or impacts, what do you think about first? You should be thinking the changing of the seasons from winter to spring and summer to fall. The degree of these changes will vary from year to year based on a number of different criteria such as the amount of precipitation, temperature, wind, and weather patterns. Industry as a whole including coal mines have no control over these changes. A minor change in temperature will result in greater evaporation from soils, bodies of water, and wetlands thus providing less water to plants and diminishing ground water. About 71 percent of the earth's surface is covered in water. Water quantities are influenced by the season. The water table will increase during the wetter years and decrease during dry years. The surface water quality changes during storms when sediment is controlled by the water and deposited into waterways. The deposited sediment reduces storage capacity of reservoirs and the stream channels may become clogged increasing bank erosion, meandering, and flooding. Greenhouse gases are a popular topic of discussion by special interest groups and media. Unfortunately, the public are under the impression that burning coal is responsible entirely for greenhouse gases. Who is really providing the whole picture? Did you know that the same pollutants being released during the combustion of coal are also released when operating a motorized vehicle? The disturbed footprints in Utah are small. Most coal mines will be reclaiming less than 20 acres when the mines close. When permitting a new disturbance, whether it be a new building or an addition of a new lease, there are a series of aspects to be evaluated under laws and acts including water quality, air quality, SMCRA, radiation prior to being allowed to disturb the land or remove coal. The disturbance of lands associated with mining are required to be covered by an insured bond for final reclamation. The bond is in place from the inception to the final release of the completed reclamation. The time following the completion of reclamation to the release of the bond could be a minimum of ten years and could potentially not be released for 25 years. Coal operators take environmental issues and impacts very seriously. There is no one better suited or nobody who knows coal better

than the people here supporting economical coal mining in Utah.
Thank you.